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(c) Attorney's (Firm Name,	Address, and Felephone Number) squire, 509 Swede Stre	eet, Norristown,	PA	Attorneys (If Know	vn)					
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # AMOUNT

JUDGE APPLYING IFP

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNS VALUE DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

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assignment to appropriate calendar.	
Address of Plaintiff: 931 Indian Creek Way Horsham, PA	19044
Address of Defendant: 200 Indep. Ave., S.W. Washington	, D.C. 20201
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Elkins Park, PA and Ph.	iladelphia PA
(Use Reverse State For A	dalitonal space)
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation a	nd any publicity field corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)	Yes□ Notak
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ Nox k
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	Date Terminated
Case Number: Judge	- Date Terminated
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one y	
	Yes□ No□X
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior action in this court?	suit pending or within one year previously terminated
action in this court:	Yes□ No 🖫
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier	numbered case pending or within one year previously
terminated action in this court?	Yes□ No ∑ K
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil righ	ts case filed by the same individual?
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CIVIL: (Place \(\nu\) in ONE CATEGORY ONLY) A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	1. ☐ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. □ FELA	2. □ Airplane Personal Injury
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. □ Assault, Defamation
4. □ Antitrust	4. ☐ Marine Personal Injury
5. □ Patent	5. □ Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please
	specify)
7. □ Civil Rights	7. □ Products Liability
8. Habeas Corpus	8. □ Products Liability — Asbestos
9. Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)
11. AXAll other Federal Question Cases	Challenge
(Please specify) Medicare Secondary Payer Bron. ARBITRATION CERT	
(Check Appropriate C	Category)
Devine , counsel of record do hereby cert pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and	ify:
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	Totalet, the damages receivable in this or whether each enterior
□ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	
DATE: 1/12/2012 James I. Devine	39270
Attorney-at-Law	Attomey I.D.#
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if the	ere has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or	within one year previously terminated action in this court
except as noted above. James I. Lerne	
$1/12/2012$ $q_{\text{ames I. Devine}}$	39270
DATE: Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#

Case 2:12-cv-00154-PD Document 1 Filed 01/13/12 Page 3 of 12

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA



CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

	CIVILA	CIVIL ACTION				
Edith Weinstein, Exec Estate of Irwin Weins V.		CIVIL				
Kathleen Sebelius, Se the United States Deg		N12	0154			
In accordance with the Civil plaintiff shall complete a Cas filing the complaint and serve side of this form.) In the expension designation, that defendant shall other part to which that defendant belie	e Management Track Designal copy on all defendants. (Solvent that a defendant does not that its first appearance ites, a Case Management Track	nation Form in all civil ca ee § 1:03 of the plan set for not agree with the plainting e, submit to the clerk of co ack Designation Form spe	rth on the reverse ff regarding said ourt and serve on			
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	LLOWING CASE MANA	GEMENT TRACKS:				
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases b	rought under 28 U.S.C. § 22	241 through § 2255.	()			
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. (
(c) Arbitration – Cases requi	red to be designated for arb	tration under Local Civil	Rule 53.2. ()			
(d) Asbestos – Cases involvi exposure to asbestos.	ng claims for personal injur	y or property damage fror	n ()			
(e) Special Management – C commonly referred to as the court. (See reverse simanagement cases.)	ases that do not fall into trac complex and that need spec ide of this form for a detaile	ial or intense managemen	e t by			
(f) Standard Management –	Cases that do not fall into a	ny one of the other tracks.	(X)			
		Plaintiff				
01/12/2012	James I. Devine Attorney-at-law	Attorney for	r			
Date	•	•				
610-292-9300	610-270-0503	jamesdevinelawo	ffice@gmail.co			
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Add	ress			
(Civ. 660) 10/02			18 1 3 2012			

Case 2:12-cv-00154-PD Document 1 Filed 01/13/12 Page 4 of 12

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 4/

EDITH WEINSTEIN, Executrix of the Estate of Irwin Weinstein, deceased 931 Indian Creek Way Horsham, PA 19044

v.

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

CIVIL ACTION No.:

12 0154

COMPLAINT

PARTIES

- The plaintiff is Edith Weinstein, an adult individual who is the duly appointed personal representative of the estate of Irwin Weinstein. Edith Weinstein resides at 931 Indian Creek Way, Horsham, Pennsylvania 19044.
- The defendant is Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of the United States Department of
 Health and Human Services, whose office is located at 200 Independence Avenue,
 S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201.

JURISDICTION

3. This Court possesses subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 42 U.S.C.A. §405 (g).

VENUE

4. Venue is proper in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1395 ff (b).

FACTS

- 5. The plaintiff herein filed a lawsuit captioned <u>Edith Weinstein</u>, <u>Executrix of the Estate of Irwin Weinstein</u>, <u>deceased v. Albert Einstein Medical Center</u>, <u>Elkins Park Hospital</u>, <u>Einstein at Elkins Park</u>, <u>Kathleen Ann Hayward</u>, <u>M.D.</u>, <u>Matthew Christianson</u>, <u>M.D. and Dresher Hill Health and Rehabilitation Center</u>, <u>C.C.P. Philadelphia County</u>, <u>April Term</u>, <u>2007</u>, <u>No. 0623</u> on April 11, 2007, arising from the treatment of Irwin Weinstein at Elkins Park Hospital/Einstein at Elkins Park and Albert Einstein Medical Center on April 10, 2005. Irwin Weinstein died on September 4, 2005.
- 6. In said lawsuit, the plaintiff claimed that Irwin Weinstein should have been administered thrombolytic therapy ("TPA") to treat his cerebral stroke on April 10, 2005 within three hours of the onset of his symptoms. The defense in the underlying medical malpractice case claimed, inter alia, that their decision against administering TPA on April 10, 2005 was based on sound medical judgment. The defendants claimed that Irwin's history of ongoing hemorrhoid bleeding, his elevated blood pressure and his clinical improvement on April 10, 2005 after his initial presentation supported their decision not to administer TPA, a medication used to lyse clots and restore cerebral blood flow. The defendants argued further that a CT scan study of Irwin's brain on April 16, 2005, six days later, demonstrated that Irwin suffered another newly-onset cerebral hemorrhage, which was the real reason for Irwin's prolonged hospitalization and death.

- 7. The aforementioned lawsuit, <u>Weinstein v. AEMC</u>, was ultimately settled amicably by the parties, who reached a confidential settlement agreement.
- 8. Plaintiff filed a Motion for Court Determination of Applicable Medicare Lien on September 26, 2008 in the trial court, which Defendants joined on October 2, 2008. Said Motion laid out both parties' arguments concerning the alleged medical malpractice and requested a Court Order limiting the time frame and amount of the Medicare recovery to \$2,922.34, subject to a pro-rata deduction for procurement costs, which reflects the amount paid by Medicare from April 10, 2005 through April 16, 2005, the date of the subsequent head CT scan that demonstrated the new acute bleed.
- 9. The trial court dismissed Plaintiff's Motion for Court Determination of Applicable Medicare Lien noting that Plaintiff was free to present the lien issue in its Petition for Court Approval of Settlement and Distribution in Wrongful Death and Survival Action.
- On October 30, 2008, Plaintiff filed a Petition for Court Approval of Settlement and Distribution in Wrongful Death and Survival Action. Attached to said Petition was Plaintiff's Motion for Court Determination of Applicable Medicare Lien and a limitation of the time frame and amount of the Medicare recovery to \$2,922.34, subject to a pro-rata deduction for procurement costs.
- 11. The court in the aforementioned lawsuit, <u>Weinstein v. AEMC</u>, issued an order on November 20, 2008 approving the proposed settlement and distribution, including

the proposed limitation on the time frame and amount of the Medicare recovery to \$2,922.34, subject to a pro-rata reduction for procurement costs.

Plaintiff's Motion for Court Determination of Applicable Medicare Lien, Defendant's 12. Motion joining Plaintiff's Motion for Court Determination of Applicable Medicare Lien and Plaintiff's Petition for Court Approval of Settlement and Distribution in Wrongful Death and Survival Action were all served upon Medicare TPL, c/o JP Morgan Chase, 9000 Haggerty Road, MI1-8845, Belleville, Michigan. Without holding a fact-finding hearing and in violation of the due process rights of Edith Weinstein, the Medicare Appeals Council in its November 25, 2011 decision determined that Medicare TPL, c/o JP Morgan Chase, 9000 Haggerty Road, MI1-8845, Belleville, Michigan is not the address for the MSPRC contractor and that said address is the address for an ATM only. It is unclear to plaintiff what the Medicare Appeals Council means by the terminology "ATM". However, both Plaintiff and Defendant in the underlying medical malpractice lawsuit served their motion and response to that address, Plaintiff by FedEx delivery. Plaintiff received a letter from MSPRC - 8 c/o JP Morgan Chase dated December 3, 2008 acknowledging receipt of the correspondence sent. Therefore, for whatever purpose Medicare and MSPRC used that address, it sufficed for delivery and response concerning legal issues. The Medicare Appeals Council failed to acknowledge the fact that Medicare had, in fact, received and accepted without protest correspondence and legal motions at the address, which the Medicare Appeals Council appears to claim to be incorrect. Moreover, Medicare is bound by "on the merits" decisions of state courts whether or not Medicare is served with the underlying state court motions and whether or not Medicare is a party or participates in the state court action.

- Turning back to the events following the November 20, 2008 Court Order that determined the amount owed to Medicare, four months after the underlying medical malpractice case was resolved, the Medicare Secondary Payer Recovery Contractor ("MSPRC") issued a demand letter dated March 17, 2009 requesting payment of \$90,230.51, less procurement costs, resulting in a net amount claimed of \$58,393.57. Medicare demanded reimbursement for all of the medical expenses Medicare paid starting on April 10, 2005 up until Mr. Weinstein's death on September 4, 2005, less procurement costs.
- 14. Through counsel, plaintiff notified Medicare's contractor of her objection to the amount of Medicare's claim, explaining in detail the basis for the objection. The essence of the objection is that, first, Medicare is bound by the "on the merits" decision of the state court set forth in the November 20, 2008 Court Order. Additionally, Medicare is not entitled to be reimbursed for payment it made for treatment that the beneficiary, Irwin Weinstein, received that is unrelated to the medical negligence. Stated differently, Medicare is entitled to be reimbursed only for those medical expense payments it made for treatment that was necessitated by the claimed medical negligence. Plaintiff paid the full amount of Medicare's claim under protest, reserving her rights.
- 15. Plaintiff pursued all required administrative procedures and appeals before filing this action.

- 16. By letter dated November 25, 2011, the Department of Health and Human Services, Medicare Appeals Council notified plaintiff of its decision upholding the Administrative Law Judge's decision that had affirmed Medicare's determination that plaintiff owed Medicare the entire amount Medicare paid on behalf of Irwin Weinstein between April 10, 2005 and September 4, 2005, without reduction of any amount for the cost of care that Irwin Weinstein received unrelated to the medical negligence.
- Plaintiff files the instant lawsuit seeking partial reimbursement of the amount paid to 17. Medicare because the medical services provided to Irwin Weinstein after April 16, 2005, the date of the subsequent head CT scan that demonstrated the new acute bleed, were not proven by Medicare to be the result of the claimed professional negligence of healthcare providers, and because Medicare claimed reimbursement for the costs of medical treatments and services that were necessitated because of the stroke, rather than from treatment costs necessitated by malpractice. Medicare is not entitled to reimbursement of the medical care and hospitalization costs that Irwin Weinstein would have incurred for diagnosis and treatment of his stroke irrespective of the underlying alleged negligence of the failure to provide thrombolytic therapy. Nor is Medicare entitled to reimbursement for medical payments it made for treatment that would have been necessitated by Irwin Weinstein's second cerebral hemorrhage identified on April 16, 2005. Medicare failed to meet its burden of demonstrating what Medicare payments were made by reason of the failure to administer TPA versus what payments were made because of the initial stroke and

the April 16, 2005 cerebral bleed. Medicare has the ultimate burden of proving what medical services and payments were necessitated because of the malpractice. As such, given the facts of the case, Medicare is not entitled to be reimbursed the amount that Medicare paid after April 16, 2005. Nor is Medicare entitled to be reimbursed for payments it made for treatment necessitated by the initial stroke. Medicare's decision to require full reimbursement of the entire amount Medicare paid for treatment of the initial stroke and for the amount Medicare paid for treatment after April 16, 2005 is plainly erroneous and was based upon the application of an improper legal standard. Medicare, the Honorable Administration Law Judge and the Medicare Appeals Council applied an erroneous legal standard in determining the case. Additionally, the Medicare Appeals Council ("MAC") made a finding of fact concerning the Medicare address, without affording notice or hearing to Edith Weinstein. The MAC reached an unsupportable conclusion based upon its unsupported finding. Finally, plaintiff requested, but was erroneously denied the request that Medicare produce two designated witnesses at the ALJ hearing.

Plaintiff files the instant lawsuit seeking partial reimbursement of the overpayment to Medicare, plus interest and costs, because the state court decision approving the amount of the appropriate Medicare lien was on the merits and controlling in accordance with the Medicare Secondary Payer Manual. The state court considered each aspect of the Weinstein Estate's petition seeking court approval of the underlying settlement and allocation of the payment by the third party. No part of the state court decision was entered as a result of any default or technicality. By definition, the November 20, 2008 Order was on the merits: The state court was free

18.

to reject, accept or alter any aspect of the Weinstein's estate's petition and request for a designated apportionment of medical expenses necessitated by the malpractice distinguished from the other elements of recovery. In its Secondary Payer Manual, Chapter 7 at 50.4.4 (2008), Medicare has specifically consented to State Courts or other adjudicators making such allocations. Medicare has agreed to be bound by those on the merits determinations. As such, Medicare has agreed to submit to the jurisdiction of such courts and adjudicators.

- 19. Aside from the plain import of Medicare's consent to state court decisions and jurisdiction, which the Administrative Law Judge failed to recognize and apply, the Weinstein estate sought testimony from Medicare at the ALJ hearing concerning its history of accepting and recognizing State Court Orders making such allocations. The Administrative Law Judge incorrectly refused to honor the Weinstein estate's request for such testimony at the ALJ hearing, which decision was erroneously affirmed by the MAC.
- 20. Additionally, the ALJ and the MAC erroneously failed to require Medicare to produce a designee to identify and provide documentation at the hearing concerning the breakdown and amount paid by Medicare for all medical treatment/services received by Irwin Weinstein from April 10, 2005 the date of his stroke, through September 4, 2005 the date of his death. The MAC did not address this point of appeal in its decision. Medicare wrongly deprived the Weinstein estate the opportunity to review and contest specific Medicare payments for which Medicare demanded reimbursement as being unrelated to the malpractice claim, even if a

judicial authority was to determine that the November 20, 2008 Court Order is not an "on the merits" decision.

- 21. The amount in controversy exceeds \$1,350.00.
- The ALJ and MAC failed to apply the proper legal standards in deciding the case.

 The ALJ and MAC failed to oblige the controlling Medicare Secondary Payer

 Manual in deciding the case. Moreover, the decisions of the ALJ and MAC are not supported by substantial evidence.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs request judgment in their favor and against the defendant for an amount not in excess of \$150,000.00, plus costs and whatever damages the Court deems just.

LAW OFFICE OF JAMES I. DEVINE

Date: 1-12-12

Bv

JAMES I. DEVINE, ESQUIRE

Attorney for Plaintiff

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jamesdevinelawoffice@gmail.com

Telephone: (610) 292-9300 Attorney I.D. No. 39270